1208

COMIC SHOP NEWS™

DARK RAIN

A NEW ORLEANS STORY

"Mat Johnson's unflinching, macabre sense of humor is perfectly in tune with New Orleans, and Simon Gane's eye for character and detail brings the region — in all its glory and degradation — to vivid life."

—JOSH NEUFELD, writer/artist of the New York Times bestseller *A.D.: New Orleans After the Deluge*

"Heart-stopping and heartbreaking."

—MARK WINEGARDNER, New York Times best-selling author of *The Godfather Returns.*

"DARK RAIN HAS THE TWISTS OF *THE TREASURE OF THE SIERRA MADRE*, the political punch of *When The Levees Broke* and the character interplay of *The Defiant Ones.*"

—REGINALD HUDLIN, writer of *Black Panther*, director of *Boomerang*

From the writer of INCOGNEGRO A graphic novel thriller set in the days after Hurricane Katrina

Written by MAT JOHNSON Illustrated by SIMON GANE

AUGUST 2010

Comics and Books for Mature Readers

VERTIGO

vertigocomics.com

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COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

Produced by *Comic Shop News* in cooperation with *newsarama.com*

Every year, scores of publishers and tens of thousands of fans gather in San Diego for Comic-Con International, a gala event that has expanded beyond comics to include all aspects of popular culture. But comics remain at the forefront of the event, so lots of news breaks in San Diego—and 2010 was no exception. Take a look at the comics news highlights from this year's Comic-Con!

Stan Lee Goes Boom!

Earlier this year, ***CSN*** told you that *Stan Lee* was developing several projects with Boom Studios. Now the publisher has announced the first trio of Lee-created titles, as well as the creators who'll help to launch those books.

First up is ***Soldier Zero*** by *Paul Cornell & Javier Pina*, which launches in October. A month later, *Mark Waid & Chad Hardin* debut ***The Traveler.*** December brings ***Starborn*** by *Chris Roberson & Khary Randolph.*

Boom publisher *Ross Richie* explained that Lee's involvement with Boom came about because "we have mutual friends... This gave Mark Waid and me an opportunity to meet Stan, and the partnership formed from there. I couldn't believe he didn't kick me out of the room, because Boom is a very young company and Stan is very accomplished."

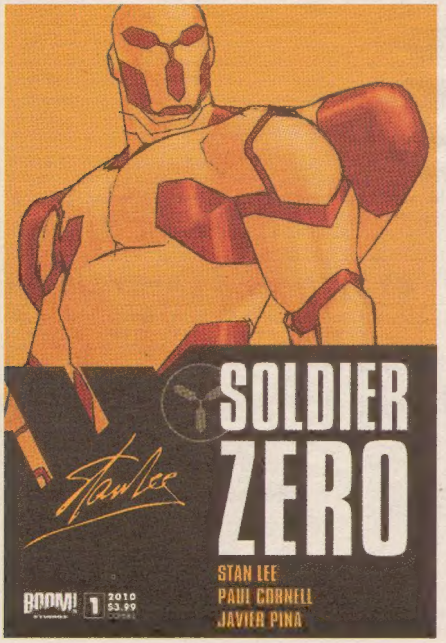
Lee said that "I've liked the work that Boom has done," mentioning ***Poe, Irredeemable,*** and the company's Pixar titles. "These guys are great to work with," Lee added. "They create the books, but then they bring 'em to me and say 'What do you think of this idea? How do you like this bit? How do you feel about this art?' It felt like I was back in the Marvel Bullpen again, and I've *never* had a better time."

Mark Waid discussed ***The Traveler,*** explaining that "Stan and I have a mutual love of history" and of time travel tales, "so we began talking about a time travel story that's not ***The Terminator,*** not ***The Time Machine,*** not what you've seen a thousand times before. "It had to have heart. That's one of the things I learned from Stan—not just as a reader, but working with him. You have to have heart."

Waid said that Stan always asks, "What's the heart of it?" and that he's right every time.

"I tend to be!" Lee quipped.

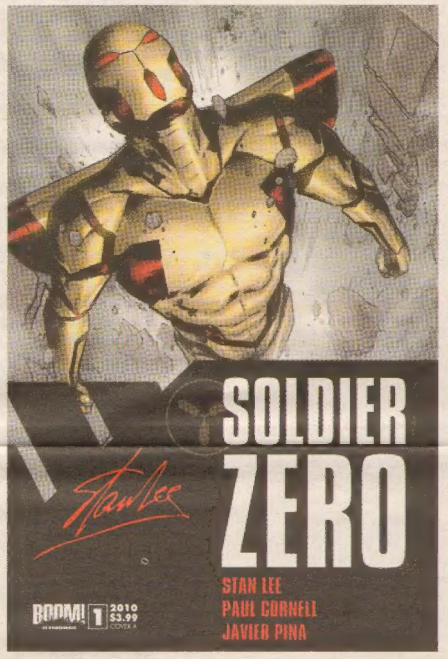
One thing that makes ***The Traveler*** different from other time travel tales is that the "this guy doesn't care whether he messes with history or not. Had he been standing in Dealey Plaza in 1963, Kennedy wouldn't have been killed. He's worry about the repercussions later."



"We should have called him The Tamperer," Lee said.

Roberson explained that ***Starborn*** starts "with a regular guy on Earth who discovers that he's the heir to an alien empire. I thought, 'What's the interesting conflict there?'

"As he heads out into space to liberate these oppressed alien cultures, he discovers that he dad was the bad guy, and the guys he's fighting are actually the freedom fighters who overthrew his Dad."



"It's so intellectually complex, it makes ***Star Wars*** look like a quickie," Lee added.

Cornell, who's writing ***Soldier Zero,*** described Lee as "the man who basically taught me to read." He went on to explain that, when he signed his contract with DC, he insisted that "the only exception to his DC exclusive" was ***Soldier Zero.*** "I mentioned that I had the chance to work with Stan, and DC said, 'Yes, of course, that's entirely acceptable.'"

Cornell explained that his main character is a wheelchair-bound human bonded to an alien warrior. "He's always going to be in the wheelchair," Cornell said, and the comic will address those issues. In preparing for the book, he's talked with several wheelchairs users, including artist *Al Davidson,* for advice. "Stewart is limited only by his environment, by the attitudes of other people, by the fact that there aren't enough ramps, by the fact that the world is not in the right shape for wheelchairs. He has to come back to his regular existence all the time."

Waid said that Lee and the writers hope to restore a sense of wonder to comics. "Comics have become something like WWE wrestling matches, with good guys and bad guys, but the humanity gets lost," he said. "The idea that Stan, basically created the sort of characters we know today, who are working selflessly, even though they make their own personal sacrifices - there's no sacrifice to being Superman, there's no real sacrifices to being Batman. But there are sacrifices to being a Stan Lee superhero."

Cornell added that these books aren't done as *Stan Lee* pastiches, and that Lee is very involved in every one of the titles; he compared it to producer *Rick Rubin's* involvement with the late *Johnny Cash,* who once again found his voice and renewed his musical passion when he began working With Rubin.

"There's something about Stan that's such a positive influence," Waid said. "There's something about him that brings out that *joie de vivre...* there's not a cynical bone in his body. You get to embrace what's good in humanity."

The Morrison the Merrier

Good news for Batman fans: *Grant Morrison* will remain a part of Batman's world as he launches a new series, ***Batman Inc.,*** later this year.

Morrison's ***Batman Inc.*** will follow his ***Batman: The Return*** oneshot (which is slated for October release). "All I can tell you up front is that it's almost a team book," Morrison said. I was looking at the ***Brave and Bold*** cartoon, which I love. I kind of wanted to do that kind of thing... Batman with other people," Morrison said. "We've come up with a structure that let's us do this kind of team book... This is where you'll see what Bruce is up to, how he turns the Batman idea into a franchise."

First up, though, is the aforementioned ***Batman: The Return,*** written by Morrison and illustrated by *David Finch,* who will debut a Batman costume redesigned for the 21st Century. *David Finch* said that the book is going to re-establish Bruce Wayne's role. Look for it in October, with ***Batman Inc.*** following in November.

"Everything's been leading to this. Bruce Wayne made his long journey home in ***The Return of Bruce Wayne.*** Then

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

Gotham City's protector came back in ***Batman: The Return***. Now comes ***Batman, Inc.***—the next phase of the Dark Knight as only mastermind writer *Grant Morrison* could imagine it," Batman group editor *Michael Marts* said. "Joined on art by *Yanick Paquette*, this brand-new monthly series starring Batman and an unexpected supporting cast is sure to shock and surprise!"

So what's happening to Dick Grayson after Bruce Wayne's return? Morrison declined to reveal any details, saying that readers would have to see how it's going to play out.

Marvel Makes Theirs CrossGen!

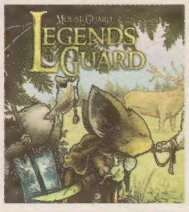
Great news for fans of the all-too-short-lived Crossgen line of comics: Marvel head honcho *Joe Quesada* offered a teaser image of CrossGen's sigil logo (which transformed into a more stylized version of the same logo) at the "Cup o' Joe" panel in San Diego, along with the date 2011.

In case you forgot, CrossGen was the ambitious venture launched by *Mark Alessi* in the late 1990's; the company built a successful line of science fiction and fantasy titles (such as ***Sojourn, Sigil, Mystic***, and ***Ruse***, to name just a few) that were unlike anything else in the marketplace at the time. Alas, the company folded in 2003, and its assets were bought by Disney. Of course, Disney is the company that purchased Marvel last year, which makes a deal bringing CrossGen properties to Marvel particularly understandable.

While Quesada offered no details or particulars, Quesada *did* tell comicbookresources.com that "we're going to be doing some CrossGen stuff ... we're not really prepared to talk much about it right now. But we have started to work on some concepts based on the old CrossGen concepts, trying to strengthen them up, and eventually bring them to Marvel... It just offers us a wider variety of stories to tell than just the normal Marvel Universe kind of stories... I think with the CrossGen stuff you're going to see us attempt a little more genre publishing, which I think is much needed in our imprint."

Look for further news as it develops!

Archaia



•David Petersen's ***Legends of the Guard***, featuring guest creators telling new stories set in the ***Mouse Guard*** milieu, has been so successful that Petersen is already working on a second ***Legends of the Guard*** series, "and I already have the books halfway filled," Petersen said. The list of talents who'll be contributing to ***Legends of the Guard 2*** include *Bill Willingham, Janet Lee, Nick Tapanlansky,* and *Stan Sakai.*

Avatar

•When Avatar brings ***Lady Death*** back, don't look for a total revision. Instead, the story is a new chapter set fifty years after Lady Death lost her soul; readers will meet a less powerful Lady Death—but still quite dangerous!

•In addition, ***Lady Death: Origins*** will present her earliest adventures in trade paperback form.

•*Garth Ennis's* ***Crossed*** will join the Avatar lineup as an ongoing series next year, set in the same world as the two miniseries. *Garth Ennis & Jacen Burrows* will produce the first arc of the new ***Crossed: Badlands*** series, while *Jamie Delano* is writing the second arc.

•*David Lapham & Gianluca Pagliarani* are producing a ***Crossed 3D*** oneshot for Halloween release.

•*Max Brooks*, creator of ***World War Z***, is returning to the World War—but not the one involving zombies. Instead, he's doing a 200+ page WW2 graphic novel for Avatar, based on a true story.

Dark Horse

•Dark Horse is launching a new anthology series focusing not only on *Robert E. Howard's* well-known heroes such as Conan, Kull, and Solomon Kane, but also on less familiar characters such as Sailor Steve Costigan, El Borak, Bran Mak Morn, and Dark Agnes. Each 80-page perfect-bound issue will include a mixture of original adventures and classic recolored reprints, along with bonus non-comics material.

•*David Lapham* is writing Dark Horse's next ***Kull*** limited series, ***The Hate Witch***, an original story that launches in November; *Gabriel Guzman* will supply the art.

•*Bruce Jones* is writing Dark Horse's next ***Solomon Kane*** limited series, ***Skulls in the Stars***, an adaptation of a *Robert E. Howard* story.

DC

•*Geoff Johns* said that readers can look forward to "Secret Origin II" in ***Green Lantern;*** the arc, which will be illustrated by *Ivan Reis*, will focus on Sinestro. "It'll come out sometime next year," Johns said.

•***Suicide Squad*** is moving from comics to videogames; *Geoff Johns* described the game as being "hardcore violent."

•*Geoff Johns* offered a few new details on his upcoming ***Batman: Earth One*** graphic novel, illustrated by *Gary Frank*. "Everyone knows that Batman's the best he is at what he does, but this Batman is the worst at everything he's done..." However, this isn't presented in a lighthearted way, but as the story of a man attempting to establish himself as a hero. Alfred also undergoes major modifications in the graphic novel. "He's probably the coolest character in the Earth-One Universe," editor *Eddie Berganza* said.

•An Aquaman-themed event tale is under consideration, but no further details were offered.

•*Geoff Johns* plans to write a Vertigo series at some time, but nothing specific has been scheduled thus far. Johns *does* have a creator-owned book tentatively slated to launch in 2011.

•*Dan DiDio* has confirmed that *Grant Morrison* will stay on as writer of a Batman book in the future, but he wouldn't reveal which book or which character(s) he'd be writing.

•*Grant Morrison* announced that an ***Absolute We3*** is slated for 2011 release, and that it will feature ten pages of new *Frank Quitely* art that makes this "the definitive director's cut edition."

•Morrison is deep into his ***Multiversity*** project, which is slated to debut in the summer of 2011. While he offered little news about the focus of the ten-book multiverse-themed project, he did say that one of the books would be an extra-length special illustrated by *Cameron Stewart* called ***Thunder World***, and it would contain "everything I wanted to say" about Captain Marvel and the Marvel family. Other artists working on ***Multiversity*** books include *Frank Quitely* and *Frazier Irving*.

•*Paul Cornell* will bring Superman back to ***Action Comics*** in 2011.

•Morrison also said that he'd like to revisit the ***New Gods*** in the future, and that he'd like to put them on Earth 51 with Kamandi and other Kirby concepts, "going from scratch in a new world."

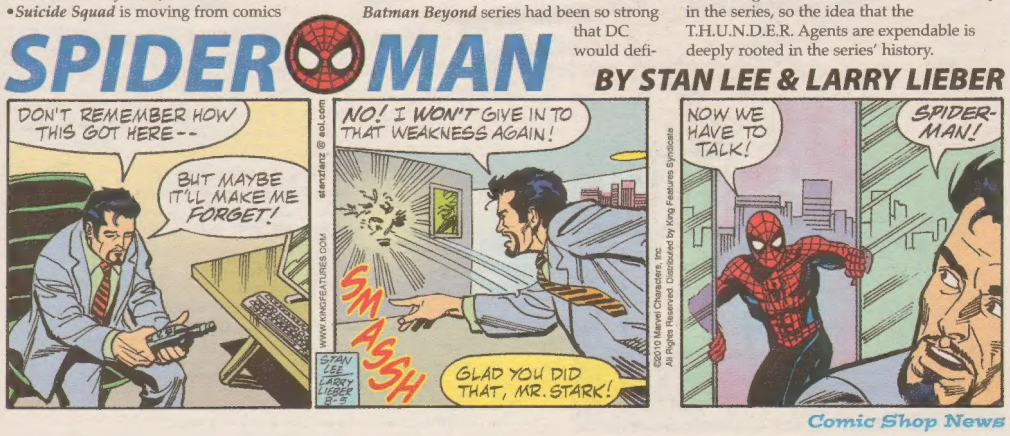
•*Geoff Johns* revealed that DC will launch a second ***Flash*** series, ***Flash: Speed Force***, in 2011. The ongoing series will focus on the other speed heroes in the DCU, including the often-requested Bart Allen and Wally West as well as Jay Garrick, Jesse Quick, and XS. No word yet on who's writing, but we can all hope that Johns will be involved!

•*Dan DiDio* said that sales on the current ***Batman Beyond*** series had been so strong that DC would definitely be doing more ***Batman Beyond*** tales of the future Gotham.

•***Young Justice***, inspired by the upcoming cartoon series, will join DC's lineup of DC Kids titles, with *Art Baltazar, Franco, & Mike Norton* handling creative duties.

•When *Nick Spencer* launches his Jimmy Olsen co-feature in ***Action Comics #692***, he'll also introduce a new member of the Superman supporting cast: Chloe Sullivan, making her DC comics debut. ***Smallville*** viewers are familiar with Chloe, who has played a vital role in the series for nine seasons now, but she has never appeared in the DCU... until now! "We really found a way to work her way into the DC Universe in a way that feels like she belongs here," Spencer said. The writer went on to explain that "it's a huge honor to be a part of ***Action***... I think this story is really about what it's like to be a normal guy in the DCU. He's an everyman in the truest sense. The only thing that separates him from most of us is that he's determined to live his life to the fullest, and that puts him in the craziest places."

•*Nick Spencer* also offered an intriguing comment on his upcoming ***T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents*** series. "I believe very much in the Geoff Johns school of re-introducing characters," Spencer said. "I want to honor everything that came before." Spencer described the series as focusing on characters offered a chance to redeem themselves, but "the catch is, if you accept the offer, you'll be dead within a year." Fans of the original miniseries will recall that the original Noman died (in human form, at least) in his origin story and the agent known as Menthor died early in the series, so the idea that the T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents are expendable is deeply rooted in the series' history.


SPIDER-MAN
BY STAN LEE & LARRY LIEBER
DON'T REMEMBER HOW THIS GOT HERE--
BUT MAYBE IT'LL MAKE ME FORGET!
NO! I WON'T GIVE IN TO THAT WEAKNESS AGAIN!
SMASSH
GLAD YOU DID THAT, MR. STARK!
NOW WE HAVE TO TALK!
SPIDER-MAN!
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Published weekly since 1987 by Comic Shop News, Inc.
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EDITORS Cliff Biggers, Ward Batty

Editorial Office
2770 Carillon Crossing
Marietta, GA 30066
cliffbig@comicshopnews.com

Business Office
3577-A Chamblee-Tucker Rd. #215
Atlanta, GA 30341
(770) 939-1364
wbatty@csnsider.com

www.csnsider.com
twitter.com/csnsider

•*Geoff Johns* is doing a Dex-Star Valentine's Day Special in 2011.

•*J. Michael Straczynski* offered an intriguing comment regarding his run on ***Wonder Woman*** and the character's bold new redesign. "How many of you know Schrödinger's cat?" JMS asked, after which he explained the concept. He then went on to explain that, in an upcoming issue, Wonder Woman sees herself in her old costume. "There's something going on here, and it involves Schrödinger's cat," Straczynski said.

•DC has a new series coming in late 2010 or early 2011, ***Weird Worlds***. *Aaron Lopresti* said he's wanted to write and draw a book for DC, and he really wanted to do a monster book. The teaser image for the book shows a character reminiscent of Swamp Thing, with the name "Garbage Man" beneath the art. Lopresti said that he was looking to bring back the "monster as superhero. I hope you all give it a chance; I think it's going to be really cool." Editor *Ian Sattler* explained that the image depicted just one of three concepts that will be featured in ***Weird Worlds***.

•*Karen Berger*, Vertigo Executive Editor, confirmed that all Vertigo characters with roots in the DC Universe will be returning to DC's editorial department. Veteran readers might recall that, in the early days of *Alan Moore's* ur-Vertigo ***Swamp Thing***, he actually interacted with DC heroes such as Superman. Now Swamp Thing, Black Orchid, Prez, Madame Xanadu, and others will be a part of the DCU. The only character who's fate is unknown is John Constantine, whose ***Hellblazer*** is Vertigo's longest-running series.

•And speaking of ***Hellblazer***, it appears that John Constantine will be getting married to Epiphany in the pages of ***Hellblazer*** this fall... "but there are forces possibly greater than Constantine that don't want it to happen," writer *Peter Milligan* told comicbookresources.com.

•*Kurt Busiek* is working on a creator-owned WildStorm series entitled ***The WitchLands***. "The short description of that would be it's sort of like ***Astro City***, except this time the genre is urban fantasy," Busiek said. "Magic in ordinary life throughout American history and beyond."

•*Kurt Busiek* also revealed that he's working on an ***Arrowsmith*** novel that will feature numerous illustrations by *Carlos Pacheco*.

•Writer *J.T. Krul* said that he intends to "get back to the A-list of ***Teen Titans***" with his run on the title, adding that "Damian's going to be poking his nose around.... "If I could have all of them in there, I would, but if you have too many characters, they don't get a time to shine." Krul also said that he'd be introducing a brand new Titans character in the near future.

Fantagraphics

•Fantagraphics and Walt Disney join forces to present ***The Complete Mickey Mouse Comic Strip by Floyd Gottfredson*** next spring. Gottfredson drew the daily strip from 1930 to 1975; that means that this project will be virtually as large as Fantagraphics' ***Complete Peanuts*** series.

IDW

•***Love and Capes*** is moving to IDW. "We're launching it close to Valentine's Day," IDW's *Chris Ryall* said. "We're happy to have *Thom [Zahler]* doing the book with us."

•IDW is partnering with ***The Suicide Girls*** to launch a new comics project next February. *Steve Niles & Cameron Stewart* will be involved in the book, which focuses on the unknown history of the Suicide Girls through the ages. "Stewart will be doing character designs and covers, with the potential for interiors," *Chris Ryall* said.

•Award-winning author *George R.R. Martin* is working with IDW on a new series of adaptations.

•*John Byrne* is working on a new ***Jurassic Park*** three-parter for 2011.

•Following the success of their ***Rocketeer*** projects reprinting *Dave Stevens'* beloved series, IDW will launch a new four-issue ***Rocketeer*** anthology project in 2011. Creators involved with the project include *Mike Allred, Kurt Busiek, John Cassaday, Darwyn Cooke, Dave Gibbons, Mike Golden, Gene Ha, Mike Kaluta, Garry Leach, Bruce Timm, Bill Willingham, & Alex Ross* (who supplies the painted covers). Each issue of the limited series will offer three new stories, supplemented by pinups. "Dave Stevens was an incredibly talented artist and a wonderful person," said IDW Special Projects Editor *Scott Dunbier*. "I would like to think that he would be happy with a book like this, one that pays such loving tribute to his greatest creation."

•What's even better than a third volume of ***John Byrne's NextMen*** reprints? Howsabout a new *John Byrne* ***NextMen*** series that picks up where Byrne's series left off way back in 1995. "When John started working for us three or four years ago, two things happened, and have been happening pretty much every month since then," IDW's CCO/Editor-in-Chief *Chris Ryall* said. "I've been asking John about doing new ***Next Men*** comics, and fans have been e-mailing me demanding that we do new Next Men stories. Happily, after all this time, John is going to quiet us all down and do just that."

•Like crossovers? Then you're going to *love* IDW's upcoming event involving ***Transformers, G.I. Joe, Star Trek, Ghostbusters,*** and ***C.V.O***—a crossover event that will be set in continuity and will have lasting effects within each series. "The license holders have been incredibly supportive," editor *Tom Waltz* said. "We have an opportunity to revitalize several older projects that some folks might not have seen because they came to our books later. It's going to be a really challenging project. "Although ***Flash Gordon*** has been previously reprinted, this—finally—is the first meticulously remastered and restored edition that prints the strip in a large size and in Raymond's original format that includes the Jungle Jim topper," project editor *Dean Mullaney* said. "We believe this will be the definitive edition for the ages."

•IDW will offer ***The Ultimate Alex Raymond Collection: The Definitive Flash Gordon and Jungle Jim HC***, offering every Sunday by Raymond from both strips, remastered, restored and published in an oversized 12" x 16" format.

Image

•At long last, *Joe Madureira's* ***Battle Chasers*** is coming back into print this fall; the oversized hardcover will reprint all nine issues of the fan-favorite series.

•*Marc Guggenheim* is launching a new imprint, Collider Entertainment, at Image. The first project under the Collider banner will be ***Utopian,*** co-written by Guggenheim and his wife *Tara Butters* (co-creator of ***Reaper***). The five issue series answers the question "What happens when the never-ending battle for truth and justice ends?"

•***Bomb Queen*** returns with her sixth series this fall, courtesy of writer *Jimmie Robinson*.

•Robert Kirkman is launching a new invitation-only Image imprint, Skybound; the first Skybound project will be ***Witch Doctor*** by *Brandon Seifert & Lukas Ketner*, which focuses on a doctor who can cure vampirism.

•John Layman has recently completed ***Chew #27,*** which will be published immediately after ***Chew #18*** and will offer readers a glimpse into the future of the characters. This issue will be followed by ***Chew #19, 20,*** etc. so that readers can see how the events

WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY OFFICE?
TRYING TO HELP YOU, MR. STARK!
SOMETHING TOOK CONTROL OF YOU--
WE MUST FIND OUT WHAT IT WAS!
SPIDER-MAN MUST NOT INTERFERE WITH MY VENGEANCE!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 8-6
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stanzarz@aol.com

develop. Readers who follow the series in trade paperback will have a bit more of a wait, though, as #27 will be collected in numerical order a year later.

Marvel

•***Loki*** is a miniseries addition to Marvel's line beginning in October, courtesy of *Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa & Sebastian Fiumara.* The series explores Loki's transition from a god of mischief to a Machievallian schemer and villain.

•***Captain America and the Korvac Saga,*** a four-part series written by *Ben McCool,* is slated to launch in December; the story focuses on the classic 1970s Marvel event tale "The Korvac Saga," retooled to fit into modern continuity; McCool says that it pays homage to the original series, but is not an exact retelling.

•*Jonathan Maberry, Sergio Cariello, Tim Sciola, Phil Winslade, & Kyle Hotz* join forces for ***Captain America: Hail Hydra,*** a five-part series beginning in January 2011.

The series will focus on Captain America's long-running war against Marvel's premiere espionage-terrorist organization.

•***Captain America: Fighting Avenger,*** debuting in January 2011, is a non-continuity limited series by *Brian Clevinger & Gurihiru* that focuses on Captain America's early WWII series, introducing some hitherto-unrevealed information about Captain America's early experiences.

•*Mark Waid* is writing ***Captain America: Man Out of Time,*** a series that explores Captain America's experiences adjusting to modern life shortly after being thawed by the Avengers.

•Look for a new Man Without Fear following the events of ***Shadowland.*** No word yet on who that might be, but teaser images include Nova, Gambit, Kraven, Black Panther, and Falcon.

•December sees the debut of ***Ultimate Doom,*** which writer *Brian Bendis* describes as "the shocking conclusion to the Ultimate Enemy trilogy.... It's a story that's never been before, and that's not hype, it's not BS." According to Bendis, the Ultimate Universe is heading into "new and scary territory." *Rafa Sandoval* will handle the art honors.

•*C.B. Cebulski* announced plans for ***Strange Tales Volume 2,*** another miniseries featuring offbeat tales of Marvel's heroes and villains produced by leading independent talents. Look for it in early 2011.

•*Dan Abnett & Andy Lanning* are joining with artist *Scott Eaton* to launch an ***Iron Man/Thor*** project in November. "It's a great opportunity to pair up characters that are the epitome or mythical legend and futurist stuff," Abnett and Lanning said..

•The original Iron Fist teams with the new Power Man in ***Power Man and Iron Fist,*** a series by *Fred Van Lente & Wellington Alves* that debuts in January.

•With ***Brand New Day*** ending in October, readers can look forward to a ***Big Time*** in ***Amazing Spider-Man*** beginning in November as the book settles into a twice-monthly schedule with a single writer, *Dan Slott,* and art by a rotating trio of illustrators that includes *Marcos Martin, Stefano Caselli,* and *Humberto Ramos.*

•*Paul Tobin & Clayton Henry* will do the honors on the upcoming ***Spider-Girl*** ongoing series—but this Spider-Girl isn't May Parker. Instead, it's the heroine who, until now, has been known as Arana.

•***Cosmic Avengers?*** It's looking very likely, courtesy of Marvel's cosmic-meisters *Dan Abnett & Andy Lanning.*

•***Rocket Raccoon & Groot*** join the Marvel lineup courtesy of *Dan Abnett & Andy Lanning.* The cover for the book is produced by *Mike Mignola,* who illustrated the original ***Rocket Raccoon*** series way back in the day. "Needless to say, Groot calls himself Groot several times in the book, and Rocket finds some unfeasibly large cannons," Abnett and Lanning said—but they *won't* say if it takes place before, during, or after ***The Thanos Imperative.***

•*Brian Bendis* said that Rom, Space Knight would be showing up in an upcoming *Avengers* story.

•Marvel is producing a ***Tron*** miniseries, ***Tron: Betrayal,*** that ties into the upcoming ***Tron: Legacy*** film from Disney.

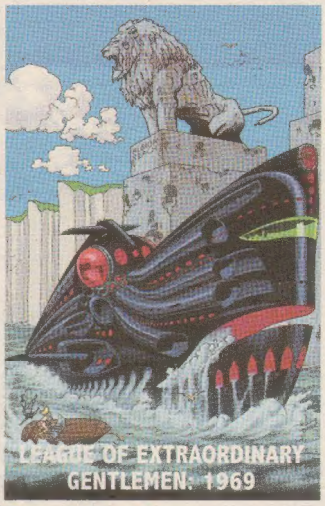
•*Orson Scott Card & Aaron Johnston* are co-writing the seven-part ***Formic Wars: Burning Earth,*** a prequel to ***Ender's Game*** that details the events of the first two Formic Wars.

•*Jeph Loeb & Ed McGuinness* are working on ***Avengers Three*** starring Captain America, Thor, and Iron Man; look for it in 2011.

•*Joss Whedon* has confirmed that he is directing the upcoming ***Avengers*** film.

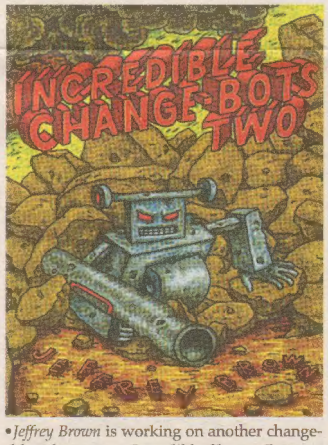
Oni

•*Marc Guggenheim & Justin Greenwood,* the creative team for ***Resurrection,*** are launching a new project, ***Stringers,*** which focuses on a group of freelance journalists who travel in search of hot stories, only to find themselves caught up in a situation that gets out of control very quickly. ***Resurrection*** will go on hiatus while they work on ***Stringers,*** but it will return once the limited series is complete.



Top Shelf

•*Alan Moore & Kevin O'Neill* will present their second ***League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*** standalone tale, ***1969,*** next year. The book is set in London in the late 1960s, and will be packed with music and popular culture references.



•*Jeffrey Brown* is working on another changeable-robot paean, ***Incredible Change-Bots Two,*** that's sure to appeal to ***Transformers*** fans; look for it in 2011.

WHY DO YOU WANT TO HELP ME?
AS IRON MAN, I TRIED TO KILL YOU!
THAT WASN'T REALLY YOU!
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•*Rob Venditti & Mike Huddleston* are working on a political thriller, ***The Homeland Directive,*** build around a deadly virus outbreak.

•Look for a new ***Korgi*** volume from *Christian Slade* next year, as well as a new ***Owly*** all-ages volume by *Andy Runton.*

2010 Eisner Award Winners

The 2010 Eisner Award winners were announced at the San Diego Comic Con, and there were surprises galore—the biggest of which was ***The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*** beating out such best-selling fan favorites as ***Blackest Night*** and ***Old Man Logan*** to win best limited series.

Here's a list of the winners:

Best Short Story

•"Urgent Request," by *Gene Luen Yang & Derek Kirk Kim,* in ***The Eternal Smile*** (First Second)

Best Single Issue (or One-Shot)

•***Captain America #601:*** "Red, White, and Blue-Blood," by *Ed Brubaker & Gene Colan* (Marvel)

Best Continuing Series

•***The Walking Dead,*** by *Robert Kirkman & Charlie Adlard* (Image)

Best Limited Series or Story Arc

•***The Wonderful Wizard of Oz,*** by *L. Frank Baum, Eric Shanower & Skottie Young* (Marvel)

Best New Series

•***Chew,*** by *John Layman & Rob Guillory* (Image)

Best Publication for Kids

•***The Wonderful Wizard of Oz HC,*** by *L. Frank Baum, Eric Shanower, & Skottie Young* (Marvel)

Best Publication for Teens

•***Beasts of Burden,*** by *Evan Dorkin & Jill Thompson* (Dark Horse)

Best Humor Publication

•***Scott Pilgrim Vol. 5: Scott Pilgrim vs. the Universe,*** by *Bryan Lee O'Malley* (Oni Press)

Best Anthology

•***Popgun Vol. 3,*** edited by Mark *Andrew Smith, D. J. Kirkbride, & Joe Keatinge* (Image)

Best Reality-Based Work

•***A Drifting Life,*** by *Yoshihiro Tatsumi* (Drawn & Quarterly)

Best Adaptation from Another Work

•***Richard Stark's Parker: The Hunter,*** adapted by *Darwyn Cooke* (IDW Publishing)

Best Graphic Album (New)

•***Asterios Polyp,*** by *David Mazzucchelli* (Pantheon)

Best Graphic Album (Reprint)

•***Absolute Justice,*** by *Alex Ross, Jim Krueger, & Doug Braithwaite* (DC Comics)

Best Digital Comic

•***Sin Titulo,*** by *Cameron Stewart*

Best Archival Collection/ Project (Comic Strips)

•***Bloom County: The Complete Library Vol. 1,*** by *Berkeley Breathed,* edited by *Scott Dunbier* (IDW Publishing)

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Best Archival Collection/ Project (Comic Books)
•***The Rocketeer: The Complete Adventures Deluxe Edition Slipcased HC,*** *by Dave Stevens,* edited by *Scott Dunbier* (IDW Publishing)

Best U.S. Edition of International Material
•***The Photographer,*** *by Emmanuel Guibert, Didier Lefevre, & Frédéric Lemerier* (First Second)

Best U.S. Edition of International Material (Asia)
•***A Drifting Life,*** *by Yoshihiro Tatsumi* (Drawn & Quarterly)

Best Writer
•*Ed Brubaker* - ***Captain America, Daredevil, Marvels Project*** (Marvel) ***Criminal, Incognito*** (Icon)

Best Writer/Artist
•*David Mazzucchelli,* ***Asterios Polyp*** (Pantheon)

Best Writer/ Artist–Nonfiction
•*Joe Sacco,* ***Footnotes in Gaza*** (Metropolitan/Holt)

Best Penciller/Inker or Penciller/Inker Team
•*J. H. Williams III,* ***Detective Comics*** (DC Comics)

Best Painter/Multimedia Artist (interior art)
•*Jill Thompson,* ***Beasts of Burden*** (Dark Horse); ***Magic Trixie and the Dragon*** (HarperCollins Children's Books)

Best Cover Artist
•*J. H. Williams III,* ***Detective Comics*** (DC Comics)

Best Coloring
•*Dave Stewart,* ***Abe Sapien, B.P.R.D., The Goon, Hellboy, Solomon Kane, Umbrella Academy, Zero Killer*** (Dark Horse); ***Detective Comics*** (DC Comics); ***Luna Park*** (Vertigo)

Best Lettering
•*David Mazzucchelli,* ***Asterios Polyp*** (Pantheon)

Best Comics-Related Periodical/Journalism
•***The Comics Reporter,*** *produced by Tom Spurgeon*

Best Comics-Related Book
•***The Art of Harvey Kurtzman: The Mad Genius of Comics,*** *by Denis Kitchen & Paul Buhle* (Abrams ComicArts)

Best Publication Design
•***Absolute Justice,*** *designed by Curtis King & Josh Beatman* (DC Comics)

Hall of Fame
- *Burne Hogarth*
- *Bob Montana*
- *Steve Gerber*
- *Dick Giordano*
- *Michael Kaluta*
- *Mort Weisinger*

Bob Clampett Humanitarian Award
•*Jeannie Schulz*

Bill Finger Award for Achievement in Comic Book Writing
•*Otto Binder*
•*Gary Friedrich*

Russ Manning Most Promising Newcomer Award
•*Marian Churchland,* ***Beast***

Coming Comics—Marvel in October

The Brand New Day is officially over as of ***Amazing Spider-Man #647,*** and it's ending with a triple-sized spectacular featuring tales by *Bob Gale, Joe Kelley, Dan Slott, Fred Van Lente, Mark Waid, Zeb Wells,* and others.

Captain America, Iron Man, and Thor learn that it's very hard to protect the earth when you've been turned into a frog. So it's logical that they'd call on the Pet Avengers when they go to war against the dragons who've decided to take over. Watch the four-legged fun in ***Avengers Vs. Pet Avengers,*** a four-parter by *Chris Eliopoulos & Ic Guara.*

Carnage returns in the five-part ***Carnage*** by *Zeb Wells & Clayton Crain,* and Spidey and Iron Man are both on his hit list.

Since the end of ***Secret Invasion,*** the Chaos King has amassed his army of alien slave gods, and now he's ready to strike Earth. Only the greatest Marvel heroes can oppose him, led by the newly-returned Hercules. But are even his incredible new powers enough to stand against the greatest threat the Marvel Universe has ever seen – a mad god who seeks to destroy Reality itself? Find out in ***Chaos War,*** a five-parter by *Greg Park, Fred Van Lente, & Khoi Pham.*

David Lapham & Kyle Baker take a hard-edged look at Marvel's deadly mercenary in ***DeadpoolMAX #1.*** When the world has a problem that's bigger than any government, special ops team, or C.I.A. smart bomb can solve, they call in the one man crazy enough to solve it: Deadpool.

As the Hulk's long-lost son Hiro-Kala rockets towards us across the solar system, Steve Rogers and the Secret Avengers face a much more immediate threat—three tons of Incredible Hulks cutting loose right here on Planet Earth! Forced to choose between his son and his planet, whose side will the Hulk take? Find out in ***Incredible Hulk #s 614 & 615*** by *Greg Pak & Barry Kitson.*

Last spring's Iron Man variant covers are compiled in the ***Iron Man by Design*** oneshot, featuring 26 offbeat Iron Man illustrations by *Marko Djurdjevic, Alan Aldridge, Skottie Young,* and man others, along with commentary.

Adam Warren, Mark Haven Britt, Steve Kurth, and others present four all-new tales of the Golden Avenger in ***Iron Man: Titanium,*** an extra-length oneshot.

Klaw, Master of Sound, is back with a new and deadly plan that will spill blood from the Savage Land to the streets of New York in ***Klaws of the Panther,*** a four-parter by *Jonathan Maberry & Gianluca Gugliotta* that pits Klaw against the Black Panther..

Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa & Sebastian Fiumara present the origin of Thor's arch-enemy in the four-part ***Loki.***

The Marvel Holiday Magazine features a 104-page mix of reprints and new material with a holiday theme.

September 21, 2019 — 13h13m: The space shuttle Atlantis disappears without a trace from control screens, completely lost to NASA ground control. September 22, 2019 —13h13m: All timepieces on the planet suddenly stop. So what's causing these strange events? Find out in *Christophe Bec's* three-part ***Prometheus.***

Mr. Negative launches an all-out assault on The Hand in ***Shadowland: Spider-Man,*** a oneshot by *Dan Slott & Paulo Siqueira.* Can Spidey and Shang-Chi stop Mr. Negative from adding Hell's Kitchen to his growing criminal empire?

Marvel enlists the talents of *Dash Shaw, Shannon Wheeler, Jeff Lemire, Jhonan Vasquez,*

GOTTA FIND OUT WHY SPIDER-MAN SWUNG INTO THE BOSS'S OFFICE!
WHILE...
WHY'D YOU PUT ON YOUR IRON MAN GET-UP?
SO I CAN LEARN WHO TOOK CONTROL OF ME WHILE I WAS IN IT!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 8-7
SUDDENLY--
ARRRRGGG!
WHA--?!!
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and many othes for the offbeat ***Strange Tales Volume 2***, a three-part series featuring irreverent takes on Marvel's heroes.

Ollie Janson had it all going for him—plenty of friends at school, good looks, and his coach called him one of the most talented basketball players he's ever seen. But that was when he could still move his legs. Now he's living with multiple sclerosis, missing all the little things he used to take for granted, and escaping into the world of movies and comics with his best friend. Then Superior entered his life. Find out what happens next in ***Superior,*** a six-part series by *Mark Millar & Leinil Francis Yu.*

Tomb Of Terror #1 presents Marvel's most terrifying monsters star in four tales of harrowing horror. Werewolf by Night, Man-Thing, Son of Satan—they're all in here, along with other supernatural stars, in tales by *Joe R. Lansdale, Joe Pruett, Mark Texeira, Jordan Raskin,* and others.

The vampire onslaught continues in ***Spider-Man Vs. Vampires,*** a oneshot by *Kevin Grevioux & Roberto Castro.*

Jai Nitz & Andie Tong offer a look into the world of ***Tron: Legacy*** in the two-part ***Tron: The Betrayal.***

Jonathan Hickman & Carlos Pacheco propel the god of thunder from the pages of ***The Ultimates*** to his own miniseries with the launch of ***Ultimate Comics Thor,*** featuring the origins of Thor, Loki, and the other Asgardians.

Wolverine promised Cyclops that X-Force would disband... but he lied. Turns out he's put together a new team that includes Archangel, Fantomex, Deadpool, and Psylocke, aka ***The Uncanny X-Force.*** *Rick Remender & Jerome Opena* chronicle the team's exploits as they embark on a dangerous mission: to kill Apocalypse by any means.

Marvel collected editions (advance solicited for November and December release) include:

- ***Atlantis Attacks Omnibus HC,*** collecting the 1990s event saga.
- ***Captain America Lives! Omnibus HC,*** collecting ***Captain America #s 43-50, 600-601, Reborn #s 1-5,*** and the ***Reborn Prologue.***
- ***Captain America: Sentinel of Liberty HC,*** collecting the twelve-part series by *Mark Waid, Brian K. Vaughan, Cully Hamner, Ron Garney, Doug Braithwaite,* and others.
- ***Doomwar HC,*** collecting the six-parter.
- ***Dracula Premiere HC,*** collecting the full-

color version of the *Roy Thomas-Dick Giordano* adaptation of *Bram Stoker's* classic.

- ***Essential Ghost Rider Volume 4 TP,*** collecting ***Ghost Rider (1973) #s 66-81, Amazing Spider-Man #274,*** and more.
- ***Fantastic Four by Jonathan Hickman Volume 3 Premiere HC,*** collecting ***FF #s 579-582.***
- ***Heroic Age TP,*** collecting ***Enter the Heroic Age, Age of Heroes #1, Avengers #1, Secret Avengers #1, New Avengers #1, Avengers Academy #1,*** and more.
- ***Hulk Volume 6: World War Hulks Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Hulk #s 22-24.***
- ***Incredible Hulk Volume 3: World War Hulks Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Incredible Hulk #s 609-611.***
- ***Marvel Masterworks: The Amazing Spider-Man Volume 5 TP,*** collecting ***Amazing Spider-Man #s 41-50 & Annual #3.***
- ***Marvel Masterworks: Atlas Era Battlefield Volume 1 HC,*** collecting ***Battlefield #s 1-11,*** featuring work by *Russ Heath, Paul Reinman, Joe Maneely, Gene Colan, Bill Everett,* and many more.
- ***Marvel Masterworks: The Uncanny X-Men Volume 7 HC,*** collecting ***Uncanny X-Men #s 151-159, Annual #5,*** and ***Avengers Annual #10.***
- ***Marvel Zombies Volume 5 HC,*** collecting the five-parter.
- ***Powers: The Definitive Collection Volume 4,*** reprinting ***Powers v2 #s 1-18.***
- ***PunisherMAX: Kingpin TP,*** collecting ***PunisherMAX #s 1-5.***
- ***Reflections: David Mack Art Book TP,*** a massive volume featuring cover paintings, drawings, and step-by-step art techniques.
- ***Sense & Sensibility Premiere HC,*** collecting the *Jane Austen* adaptation.
- ***Siege TP,*** collecting ***Siege #s 1-4, Siege: The Cabal,*** and more.
- ***Spectacular Spider-Girl: The Last Stand TP,*** collecting ***Spectacular Spider-Girl #s 1-4, Spider-Girl: The End,*** and more.
- ***Spider-Man: Grim Hunt Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Amazing Spidey #s 634-637*** and more.

- ***Thor: WorldEngine Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Thor #s 491-494 & Journey into Mystery #103.***
- ***Thor Vs. Hercules TP,*** collecting more than 200 pages of classic Asgardian-versus-Olympian tales.
- ***Thunderbolts: Cage Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Thunderbolts #s 144-147*** and more.

- ***Ultimate Comics Avengers: Next Generation TP,*** collecting ***Ultimate Comics Avengers #s 1-6.***
- ***Ultimate Comics Avengers: Crime & Punishment Premiere HC,*** collecting the six-part ***Ultimate Avengers 2.***
- ***X-Factor Forever TP,*** collecting ***X-Factor #s 63-64 & X-Factor Forever #s 1-5.***
- ***X-Force: A Force to Be Reckoned With Premiere HC,*** collecting *Fabian Nicieza & Rob Liefeld's* ***New Mutants #s 98-100, X-Force #s 1-4,*** and ***Spider-Man #16.***
- ***X-Men Forever Volume 5: Once More Into the Breach TP,*** collecting ***X-Men Forever #s 21-24 & Giant-Size.***

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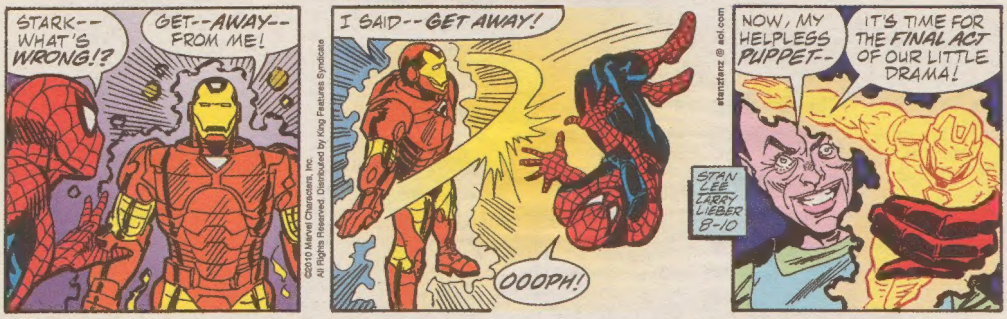
STARK--WHAT'S WRONG!?
GET--AWAY--FROM ME!
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I SAID--GET AWAY!
OOOPH!
stanzfanz@aol.com
NOW, MY HELPLESS PUPPET--
IT'S TIME FOR THE FINAL ACT OF OUR LITTLE DRAMA!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 8-10

KILL HIM, MY PUPPET!
KILL SPIDER-MAN!
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HE SURE ISN'T COMING TOWARD ME 'CAUSE HE NEEDS A PARTNER FOR "DANCING WITH THE STARS"!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 8-7

Colors: Ward Batty

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